

From: D R
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/22/02 6:22pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

I am writing in response to a call for public comment on the proposed Microsoft settlement.

I use Microsoft products, and I benefit greatly from them. This includes the various versions of their browser over the years.

The notion that I'm a helpless victim who can't choose software that's useful to me, is deeply insulting. I don't think the government has any right to decide what can be in my computer, and for the same reason I don't think the government has any right to determine what computer I may or may not buy, or what computer features.

I want you to know that I resent the idea that a successful business and its products are a threat to anyone.

Remember that the complaint against Microsoft originated not with individual consumers, or with Microsoft's partners, but with Microsoft's unsuccessful competitors.

Failed businesses must not be allowed to set the rules for the markets in which they failed. For politicians to protect some businesses from others is a dangerous policy, leading to corruption and economic disaster as shown in many other countries.

I want a *free* America where anyone with enough intelligence and hard work can be a self-made man like Microsoft Chairman Bill Gates. I want to see an America where success is not throttled but embraced.

Lastly, I would remind the court of its fundamental job. Microsoft, like any other business or person, has a right to its property, and it is the job of the government (including this court) to protect this right, not to take it away.

Sincerely,
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